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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MORPC Summit on Sustainability & the Environment Scheduled October 6, 2009 at COSI

(Columbus-September 1, 2009) Ohio's latest efforts to promote sustainability and their impact on environmental and energy issues worldwide will be showcased at the annual Summit on Sustainability & the Environment hosted by the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC). Tapping into the creative learning space at the COSI science museum in Columbus, the event starts at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 6 and will take on a global theme, catering to professionals and activists as they learn about the best practices available to resolve environmental challenges.

A full-day of inspiring and educational programming has been planned, starting with a keynote presentation by Jack Hanna, Director Emeritus of the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium. Jack will reveal insights he has gained from his extensive world travels comparing and contrasting with experiences he has had here at home.

The keynote will be followed by a number of breakout sessions covering topics that include: climate change, water conservation, energy efficiency, sustainable growth, local food, waste reduction and transportation. High-profile speakers include Ohio Department of Agriculture Director Bob Boggs and AEP Transmission President Susan Tomasky. Professor June Williamson will also present a workshop, based on her new book, "Retrofitting Suburbia: Urban Design Solutions for Redesigning Suburbs." Opportunities for networking are woven into the schedule with an Exhibit Hall and an Evening Reception.

Attendees will be encouraged to use Twitter to share their thoughts on information presented at the Summit. Attendees will be able to comment in real time on the proceedings, and those comments will be viewable at the Summit as well as around the world via the internet.

Full day general admission tickets can be purchased for \$90, or \$75 for MORPC members, students and non-profits. Tickets to attend the evening reception only are also available for \$15. For more information on the event and to register, visit www.greenregion.org.

Working to Build a Better Region

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Designated as central Ohio's metropolitan planning agency, MORPC is a voluntary association of 47 local governments. The Center for Energy & Environment at MORPC serves as a community resource in the region by offering a variety of services including: daily air quality forecasts, trail coordination, educational presentations, watershed planning, home weatherization, government carbon footprint analysis and more.